

CHARACTER ASSIGNMENT GUIDE

“How important is your character? It determines everything about you! How much you will accomplish in life, and whether you are worth knowing. How you will respond to success, and how you will weather the inevitable storms of life. Your character, more than anything else, will impact how much you accomplish in this life. It is more important than your talent, your education, your background, or your network of friends.” –Andy Stanley

VERSE

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

(Psalm 139:23–24)

This verse should be used for memorization or meditation until the next meeting.

CONTEXT | PSALM 139

David is praising God in this well-known chapter. It is a plea for God to search him when it comes to his own sin. David communicates three things that are true about God: 1) God knows everything, 2) God is always present, and 3) God is all-powerful. With that knowledge in hand, David wants God to know him and test him. David is in the midst of a battle with his enemies. Regardless, his hope is that God would see that he is always loyal to him.

PRAYER PRACTICE

The Prayer Practice: Practicing the Way

Practice Week 2: Talking with God (Praying Your Own Lament, pages 23–24).

Write a Prayer Reflection (page 25).

REFLECTION EXERCISES

Read Chapters 42–51 in *Renovation of the Heart in Daily Practice* by Dallas Willard and Jan Johnson. Read a chapter a day and complete “Today’s Experiment.”

Write out your answers to the following questions on *Renovation of the Heart in Daily Practice*:

- Which chapter was most impactful and why?
- How did your relationship with God change because of what you learned?

Read *Louder than Words* by Andy Stanley.



Answer the following questions while reading *Louder than Words*.

- Chapter 1: What kind of person do you want to become on the inside in five to ten years?
- Chapter 2: “Character is the will to do what is right, as defined by God, regardless of personal cost.” Describe a time when you have seen someone demonstrate character based on this definition.
- Chapter 3: Which of the “Four Vital Relationships” do you need to focus on? Why?
- Chapter 4: “The greatest tragedy of refusing to pursue the character of Christ is that you’ll miss God.” What aspects of your character have kept you from experiencing God?
- Chapter 5: What circumstances in your life have led you away from God?
- Chapter 6: “If someone spent a week carefully watching your lifestyle—what you laugh at, where you go, what you allow into your mind—what conclusions would they draw about your God?”
- Chapter 7: Read Romans 12:1–2. What needs to be renewed in your mind? What practices or habits will make renewing your mind an essential part of your character development?
- Chapter 8: Renewal requires two things—taking off the old and putting on the new. What old things need to be taken off? What new things will replace the old?
- Chapter 9: What specific verses will equip you to combat the lies you face every day?
- Chapter 10: Of the four habits, which one needs more attention and why?
- Chapter 11: “Character is as much about the past as it is about the present and future.” What is something from the past that is holding you back from developing godly character?
- Chapter 12: Think of a person you need to forgive, and work through the “Steps to Forgiveness.”
- Chapter 13: Write a list of character goals, and then write above them, “I CANNOT, BUT YOU CAN.” Spend time in prayer asking God to teach you what it means to walk according to the Spirit.
- Chapter 14: Write a personal finish-line statement by responding to the following questions:
 - Where are you right now?
 - What do you want to become?
 - What do you need to change to become a man or woman of character?

